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171B 03/00544 A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 H04N5/445 H04 H04N5/262 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC B. FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) HO4N GO9G H04L IPC 7 Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ, INSPEC C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Relevant to claim No. Category ° Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages 1-5,9,10 US 5 657.095 A (YOSHIDA MASAYOSHI ET AL) X 12 August 1997 (1997-08-12) column 2, line 52 -column 4, line 33; figures 2,4,5,7,8 1,9,10 EP 0 766 463 A (TOKYO SHIBAURA ELECTRIC X CO) 2 April 1997 (1997-04-02) column 7, line 48 -column 13, line 41; figures 6,7,13,14 6-8 US 6 208 386 B1 (TAMIR MICHAEL ET AL) Υ 27 March 2001 (2001-03-27) abstract; figures 2-4,7 column 4, line 21-42 -/--Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex. Special categories of cited documents: \*T\* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance invention "E" earlier document but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone filing date "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another document of particular relevance; the claimed invention citation or other special reason (as specified) cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such docu-O document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed \*&\* document member of the same patent family Date of mailing of the international search report Date of the actual completion of the international search 21/05/2003 14 May 2003 Authorized officer Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,

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